

In the claims:

Please replace the claims with the listing of claims below.

1. - 26. (cancelled)

27. (currently amended) An isolated protein comprising consecutive amino acids having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 which encodes a homeobox motor neuron restricted pattern protein designated MNR2 ~~or a fragment having the biological activity thereof.~~

28. - 47. (cancelled)

48. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the protein of claim 27 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

49. - 125. (cancelled)

126. (previously presented) An isolated protein comprising consecutive amino acids having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

127. (previously presented) The protein of claim 27, wherein the protein is a vertebrate protein.

128. (previously presented) The protein of claim 127, wherein the protein is a chick protein.

129. - 130. (cancelled)